

John Buckwalter House
North side of State Route 401 (Conestoga Pike),
.8 mile west of State Route 100 (Pottstown Pike)
Ludwigs Corner Vicinity (East Nantmeal Township)
Chester County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-1195

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PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

HABS, PA 15- LUDCO. 1, 1-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

JOHN BUCKWALTER HOUSE

Location: North side of State Route 401 (Conestoga Pike), .8 mile west of State Route 100 (Pottstown Pike), Ludwigs Corner Vicinity (East Nantmeal Township), Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Present Owner: Henry Fox Greiner, Glenmoore R.D. #1, Pennsylvania.

Brief Statement of Significance: This house, with an 1821 date stone, contains some fine interior and exterior details, including the original porch.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: John Buckwalter, Sr. to John Buckwalter, Jr.; he 1846 to Willaim Trout; he 1850 to Samuel Hufty; he 1867 to Jonathan Evans, whose exec. in 1903 sold to Wm. D. Fleming; he 1906 to T. Ellsworth Moore; he 1931 to Florence M. Moore; and she 1937 to Henry Fox Greiner.
2. Date of erection: 1821; date stone on south (front) elevation.
3. Architect, builder, suppliers: Unknown.
4. Original plans, construction: Unknown, but there have been few changes from the present four-room plan without a center hall.
5. Alterations and additions: Few changes.
6. Important old views and references:

Views: None Known.

References: Sources of information - Clipping and manuscript files in the Chester County Historical Society under heading: E. Nantmeal Twp.- Lands; and the recorder of deeds office in the Court House, West Chester, Pa.

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure:

None Known.

C. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated: None Known.

D. Supplemental Material:

"American Republican", West Chester, Pa. - November 21, 1848:

"Farm at Public Sale.

"The subscriber will sell at public sale, on Saturday the 30th day of December, at 2 o'clock, p.m., the farm whereon he resides situate in East Nantmeal township, Chester county, Pa., and lying on the Conestoga turnpike,

5 miles north west of the Yellow Springs, adjoining lands of Owen Phillips, Jacob Miller and others, containing 186 Acres of well improved land, 30 Acres of which is heavy timber.

"The improvements consist of a large two story stone Dwelling House, divided into convenient rooms, with ceiled garret, and cellar under the whole, with a well of good water at the door with pump in; a good stone Barn 73 feet long and 33 feet wide, with a Straw House in front, a stone Wagon House, Carriage House and stone Spring House over a never failing spring; large Corn Crib, with other out buildings. There is also a good Apple Orchard. The land is of a good quality, and well watered. The improvements are all good. There is also every appearance of a body of iron ore on said property, as parcels of pure ore can be found in abundance on the surface. Distance from Philadelphia, 33 miles, from Phoenixville 12 miles.

WILLIAM TROUT."

Prepared by Bart Anderson-May 1959
Curator, Chester County Historical Society

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: There have been few, if any, changes in the house.
2. Condition of Fabric: Good; partly plastered over original stone.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The house is 35'-3" (four-bay front) by 31'; two-and-a-half stories.
2. Foundations: Stone.
3. Wall construction: Random rubble partially stuccoed.
4. Chimneys: Original brick chimneys; one at each gable end.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: All original, including two front doors on the south elevation.
 - b. Windows and shutters: All original openings; six-over-nine-light double-hung sash; no shutters.
6. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Low pitch gable roof with tin covering.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Fine original cornice.
 - c. Dormers: None.

7. Porch: Original wooden porch across south (front) and east elevations.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: There are four rooms on each floor with no central hall.
2. Stairways: Original.
3. Flooring: Original.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster.
5. Doorways and doors: Original.
6. Trim: Original.
7. Hardware: Mostly original.
8. Lighting: Modern electricity.
9. Heating: Original fireplaces remain.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: House faces south on a steep bank very near road.
2. Enclosures: Modern fence.
3. Outbuildings: No old ones nearby.
4. Walks, driveways etc.: None.
5. Landscaping, gardens etc.: Little.